

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Morihito NOTANI, et al.

Application No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: January 12, 2004

Examiner:

For: TRANSMISSION APPARATUS FOR MAKING RING SWITCHING AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. ☒ Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. ☒ Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c. ☐ An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. ☒ English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
- 1e. ☐ Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.

2. ☒ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is

(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)

- 2a. ☐ satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, pp. 600-100 to 600-101, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000.)
- 2b. ☒ set forth in the application.

- 2c. ☒ satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
- 2d. ☐ enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Dated: January 12, 2004
1201 New York Ave., N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

By: 
H. J. Staas
Registration No. 22,010

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1614.1377	APPLICATION NO.
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Morihito NOTANI, et al.	
		FILING DATE January 12, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA					
	AB					
	AC					
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
AG 2001-160840	06/2001	Japan			abs	
AH 2003-134074	05/2003	Japan			abs	
AI						
AJ						
AK						
AL						

OTHER REFERENCES (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

AM	
AN	
AO	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<small>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>	